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Customer No. 26874  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Atty. Docket: END895.0511038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenneth S. Wales et al. : Paper No:  
Serial No. 10/615,973 : Group Art Unit: 3721  
Filed: July 9, 2003 : Examiner: P. Durand  
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT INCORPORATING AN ARTICULATION  
MECHANISM HAVING ROTATION ABOUT THE LONGITUDINAL AXIS

**AMENDMENT & RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action, dated August 22, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.